

AWARD INSTRUCTIONS FOR 2023
AWARD YEAR RUNS FROM JAN 1, 2023-DEC 31, 2023
AKC RECOGNIZED SPORTS

Categories of awards---

Title Award :

Title Awards for dogs that have earned a title in any of the AKC recognized sports—examples—Obedience, barn hunt, dock diving, Fast CAT, Rally, Field events, Herding events, Agility---etc. Dogs who have earned titles in 1 or two sports.

Owners will submit a hard copy award application or an emailed application with all required information. A photo of the dog along with a crate tag displaying the title(s) that the dog has earned in calendar year 2023 will be put on display in the lobby. It is the owner's responsibility to provide ONE 8×10 photo of each dog that an award form was submitted for. Photos need to be cut/cropped to 8×10 photo frame size and be in LANDSCAPE orientation.

Award applications can be either E-mailed as attachments, mailed to the club's post office box post marked by 2/29/24 or can be dropped off at the club in a folder designated for awards. **HARD COPY, LANDSCAPE ORIENTED 8X10 PHOTOS STILL NEED TO BE SUBMITTED—NO EMAILED TITLE PHOTOS.**

Triple Crown Award:

The Triple Crown Award is for dogs that have earned at least 1 title in three separate AKC recognized sports in a calendar year. An example of this is a dog that got an obedience title, an agility title and a dock diving title. Once a dog has achieved a Triple Crown Award, as long as that dog continues to earn titles, it will be eligible for the Triple Crown Award each year

Owners will submit an award application, indicating on the form that their dog is eligible for the Triple Crown. It is the owners responsibility to provide 5-6 JPEG formatted photos of their dog to awards@merrimacdogtrainingclub.org . Please do not send screen shots of photos or embed photos in an email. The Awards Committee needs the photos to be sent as an attachment. Merrimac will provide a beautiful photo collage of your dog which is a lovely keepsake. The photo will be displayed in the lobby and at the following year's award's presentation, the collage is yours to keep. Include on your award application your dog's COMPLETE AKC REGISTERED name—formatted in the same way your certificate comes from AKC—only include titles up to 2023 ---no 2024 titles should be used.

All of the Canine Good Citizen, Fit Dog, Trick Dog, Fetch (Family Dog titles) will be a separate category for the Triple Crown Award. You cannot combine these awards to receive the Triple Crown, you will need a title from at least 2 other sports in a year to be eligible for the first time. After your dog has achieved a Triple Crown Award, as long as they earn a title in each subsequent year then they are eligible to remain as a Triple Crown recipient.

Dog of the Year Awards:

Each year Merrimac awards eight Dogs of the Year. These awards are for Obedience, Rally, Barn Hunt, Scent Work, Agility, Agility Preferred, Conformation and Versatility. If you feel like your dog has achieved many titles or high scores in a certain area then you should submit your dog for a Dog of the Year award. Your dog must have achieved at least one title in the sport of your choosing for the calendar year. Owners need to submit an award form or forms along with the AKC Individual Dog Report (purchased on the AKC website)--this is NOT the free point progression page. The Awards

Committee must be able to verify placements and scores from this report. Once the Dogs of the Year are announced at the May meeting the owners are requested to supply a portrait oriented photo of their dog to be displayed in the lobby. The owner's and dog's name will be placed on a perpetual plaque that is on display in the lobby. Owners will receive some sort of recognition prize at the Award's night presentation.

It is not necessary to submit your dog for every award. Choose the category /categories that apply to your individual dog. If your are submitting your dog for a Triple Crown Award then you don't need to submit a photo for the "Title Wall". If your dog has earned a title in say, Rally—it is not necessary to submit that dog for Rally Dog of the Year if you don't want to or if you don't feel your dog has achieved enough to win over other dogs that may have been competing at a higher level, that being said, don't hesitate to submit your dog for an award as not all members participate in the program or make the deadline.

Once again the deadline for submitting ALL awards is FEBRUARY 29, 2024. either by emailing, dropping at the club in the designated folder or postmarked to the club post office box by the above date.

*****DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION FEBRUARY 29, 2024*****

for titles earned January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023

No need to wait until the last minute—submit your info NOW while you're thinking about it.

The Awards Committee is no longer requiring that owners submit copies of title certificates from the AKC---it is just too much unnecessary paper. This will be on the honor system so please be honorable.

****BARN HUNT, NADD, TRICK DOG, CGC TITLES, FIT DOG****

You must have paid AKC to add titles to your dog(s)' name(s) in order for them to be included in award calculations.